

# CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

Every Wednesday—Fivepence

FOUNDED BY  
ARTHUR MEE

Week Ending 23rd February, 1963

## **Lord Mountbatten off to South America**



**L**ORD MOUNTBATTEN is to make a good-will tour of some Central and South American countries between 24th February and 22nd March.

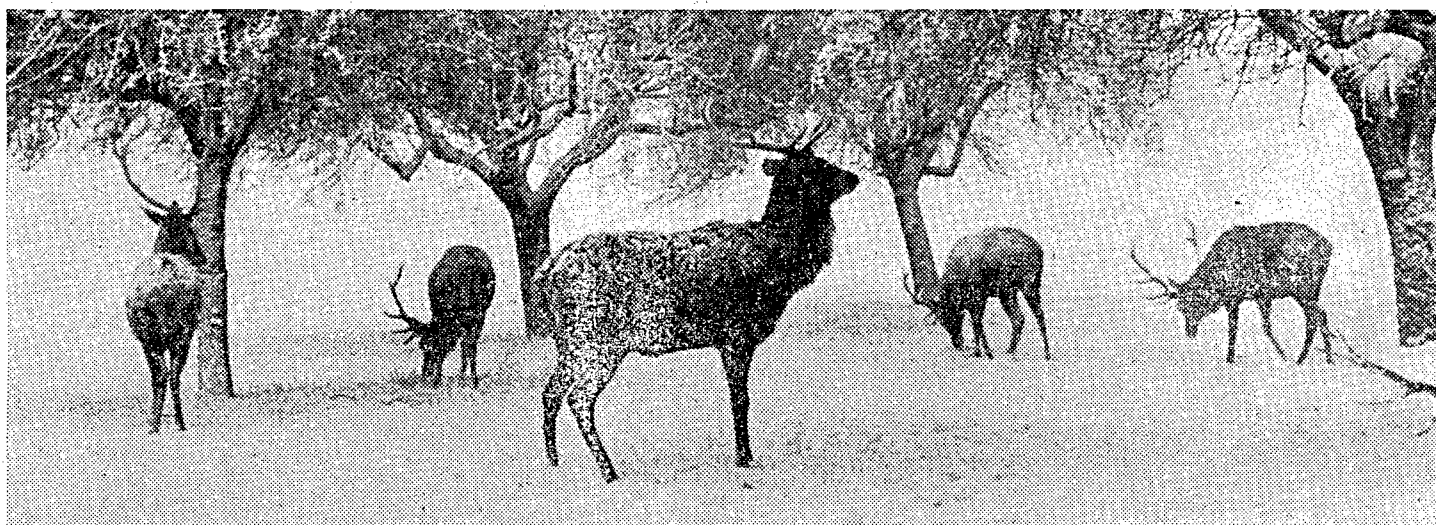
Few men have had such a distinguished career as Lord Mountbatten, Admiral of the Fleet. He went to sea at 13 and rose swiftly from the rank of midshipman until he became Commodore of Combined Operations in 1941. Since then he has been Supreme Allied Commander of South East Asia, and Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean. His lifelong calling has been the sea, but he was also the last Viceroy of India before that country achieved its independence.

### **Favourite recreations**

Although his duties allow him little time for leisure, his favourite recreations are polo and fishing.

The chief purpose of good-will tours, such as the one Lord Mountbatten is to make, is to encourage friendship between ourselves and other countries. This can be done in several ways: by meeting the people of those countries; by exchanging ideas with heads of Government; and by actually seeing how the people live, so that we will have a better understanding of their problems.

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## **THEIR GRIM BATTLE FOR SURVIVAL**

### *Nature's Larder in Deep Freeze*

There have been some alarming reports of how the severe cold and heavy snow have driven a number of wild animals into the towns on savage raiding attacks.

Foxes have been the main offenders. Although their continual raids on farms have still been going on, their activities have also been turned to the towns, where a plentiful supply of domestic cats has given them a new sort of fare to keep going.

There have been some extraordinary instances of desperation caused by hunger. Recently a horde of hungry pigeons fluttered down in a mass attack on a woman carrying a shopping basket containing bread.

But not all creatures have been driven to such desperate measures. A large number of mammals and several species of birds, especially those which visit Britain in the winter, seem to be surviving without too much trouble.

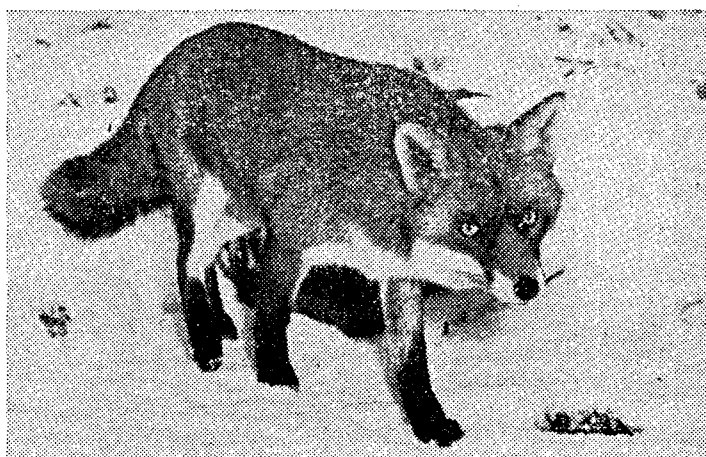
Those tough "foreigners" from Scandinavia, the fieldfares, redwings and bramblings, have taken to our miniature "Ice Age" particularly well. In common with mice and squirrels, these birds have been seeking their food under the

snow, where they have been finding well-preserved hips and haws, beach mast, nuts and acorns.

We were discussing this matter the other day with an eminent Essex naturalist, Mr. Alfred Leutscher, who is President of the Epping Branch of the British Naturalists' Association. Mr. Leutscher had just carried out a survey, and he discovered that the layers of snow had actually proved a sort of life-saver for most of the woodland creatures, who have found "deep frozen" food beneath it.

### **WASTE GROUND INTO LAWN**

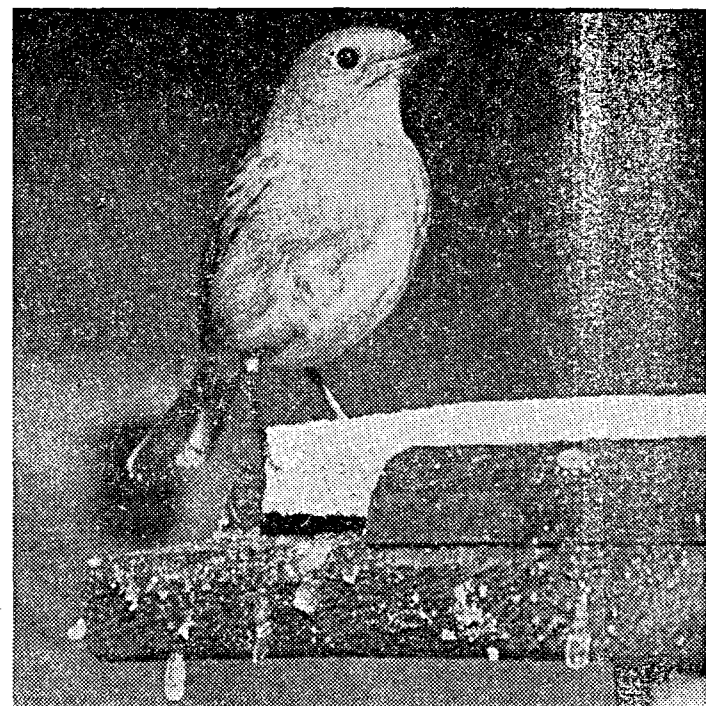
Members of the 'Old Swan Boys' Club at Liverpool have taken on a big job at the Liverpool School for the Blind. They are clearing rubbish and undergrowth from a large patch of waste ground. The idea is to make a lawn where the blind children can play in safety.



Top : Deer—in the snows of Richmond Park.

Above : Fox—in search of a cat ?

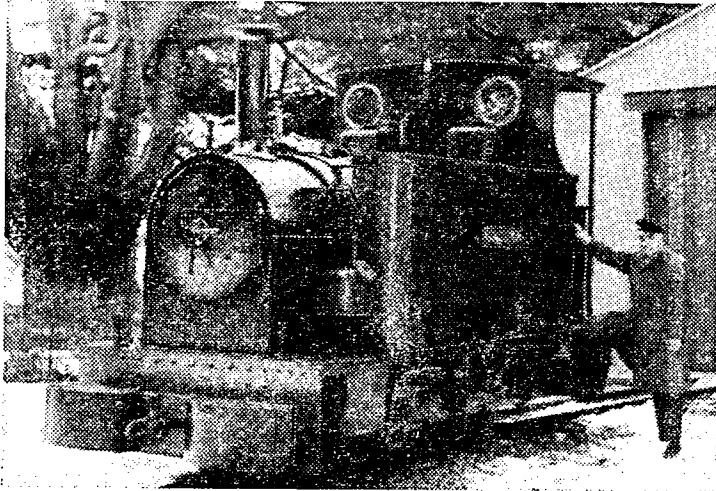
Below : Robin—not much for lunch today !





# Readers' Letters

## For Light Railway Fans



The 11-ton engine of the Bicton Woodland Railway and its driver, Mr. George Clark

Dear Sir,—I was extremely interested to read (CN 2nd Feb.) about the Bicton Woodland Railway, and thought you would be interested to hear of the efforts of another group of narrow-gauge enthusiasts. Our aim was to create a genuine narrow-gauge railway in Lincolnshire.

On the 26th August, 1960, the Lincolnshire Coast Light Railway was opened. For half a mile the

track (1 foot 11½ inches gauge) runs to connect two holiday camps at Humberston, near Cleethorpes. We have two stations—North Sea Lane and Beach. North Sea Lane has a two-road engine shed, a run-round loop, and two sidings; Beach has a run-round loop, and a bay platform may be built this year.

In 1960, there were 8,000 passengers; 60,000 in 1961; and 51,500 last year. The majority were adults, proving that our railway is a genuine public service and not just a joyride for children.

Christopher Bates (14), Grimsby.

### From far-away Stornoway

Dear Sir,—If any CN readers are interested in writing to pen-friends in Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, will they please write to me, telling me their ages and interests?

Catherine Morrison (15), 28 Portrona Drive, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, Scotland.

### The lovely harbour of Stornoway



## SHIVERING SHELLFISH!

Cockles and mussels, oysters and winkles, are believed by fisheries experts to have suffered severely during the cold spell. Beaches have been found littered with dead cockles and mussel beds in the Thames Estuary are known to have been damaged. Not only in creeks and inlets but along the foreshore, the sea water has been frozen for long periods.

Oysters die if too much silt, such as is carried down after a big thaw, covers them.

Altogether, next season's prospects for shellfish-eaters seem pretty bleak.

Why don't you write to me this week? (The Editor, Children's Newspaper, Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4)

### Changing Africa

Dear Sir,—The maps you published in KNOW YOUR NEWS issue dated 5th January gave such a clear picture of the new Africa that my father, who is a manager in an export office, asked me to let him have them for reference.

Recent changes in Africa have been so many and difficult to follow, and these maps were the most up-to-date that my father had seen.

P. Macalister-Smith, Lincoln.

### Esperanto

Dear Sir,—I read with interest about Esperanto for Africans (CN 2nd Feb.).

For two years my father has been learning Esperanto. Recently, my mother and I also became interested, and we all go to the Co-operative Club once a week.

Brenda Airey (13), Hull.

### Has anyone the time?

Dear Sir,—I have a hobby of repairing old clocks, and would like to pick up hints. Will anyone who has this hobby write to me, please? P. N. Hindle, 25 Russell Street, Bacup, Lancs.

### Up-Helly-A!

Dear Sir,—The 2nd February issue was of special interest to me, having the pictures of Up-Helly-A! in it. As a matter of fact my father cured the sheepskins worn by the Jarl squad in the picture. I did a little work on the skins myself. Henry H. Burgess, Quendale, Shetland.

### Basutoland calling!

Dear Sir,—I am writing on behalf of a pen-pal of mine in Basutoland, South Africa. Several of his friends would like to correspond with English children. They are at Peka High School, Basutoland, PO Qumtree, Orange Free State, South Africa.

I would also like to correspond with anyone interested in fishing, natural history, railways, or who just likes writing.

Richard Lacy (15), 43 Woodland Grove, Coombe Dingle, Bristol.

# KNOW YOUR NEWS

## THE GREAT DRIFT SOUTH!



UNEMPLOYMENT in the North of England has shed a fierce light on the Great Drift South.

The London neighbourhood has lured millions of people, young and old, from less favoured areas. The demand for labour and high wages have made the South-eastern counties the Mecca of Merrie England.

According to Treasury figures issued last month, in the ten years 1951-61 a total of 272,000 workers left the declining areas of the North to take up jobs in the more prosperous South.

When you multiply these numbers by families, you get some idea of the extent of the Great Drift.

It's estimated that by 1980 Britain's population will put on another four million. The increase in the South-east alone will be 2.6 per cent., and of this 1 per cent. will be due to migration or "drift," unless the present tendency is checked.

Meanwhile, Viscount Hailsham has been given special responsibilities as one of Mr. Macmillan's Ministers to deal with unemployment in the North-east.

As he prepares to pay his third visit to the region next month, the questions he must be asking are:

Can the drift to the South-east be checked? If it is, will the result be more jobs in the North-east?

Planners say that unless something is done, a vast concrete jungle will be created—a choked, built-up zone with huge traffic jams.

The railways will break down under the strain of carrying surplus millions who cannot use the roads.

Open spaces will disappear under forests of flats.

The fact remains that London is the "city with the mostest." It has more amenities—shops, theatres, cinemas, hotels, art galleries—than any other single region.

No wonder young people are attracted, when they can find the top shows playing to packed houses nearly every night, or see Cliff Richard walking in the West End!

In the next ten years some Government departments will no doubt be moved out of London; more hotels will be built in the North; more culture will be exported from the South; more factories will be diverted northwards.

But for the present the Great Drift continues... right down to the Strait of Dover.

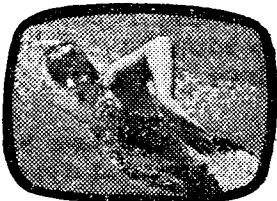
BY OUR  
SPECIAL  
CORRESPONDENT

## YOUR CAREER HERE

A new guide to 180 careers for school-leavers who have obtained the GCE is intended to answer such questions as, "How do I become...?", or, "What qualifications do I need for...?" and, "What kind of work does one do in...?"

Called *Careers Guide*, it has been prepared by the Ministry of Labour, and is obtainable from the Stationery Office or any book-seller (6s. 6d.).

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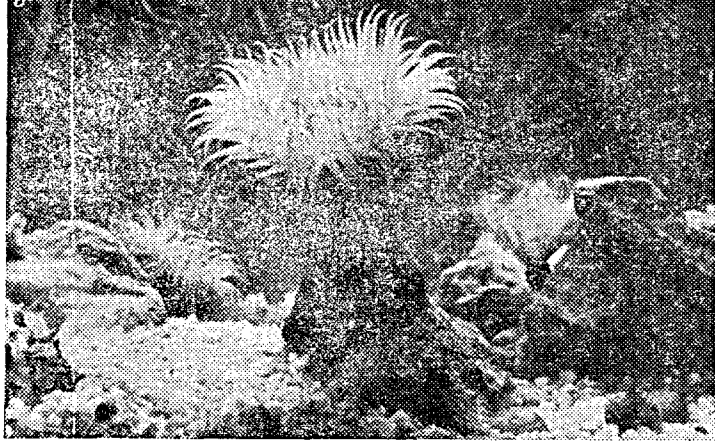
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# ANIMAL OR PLANT?



THE other day Paddy and Jane had been listening to a nature programme on the radio and had heard someone refer to "birds and other animals." This prompted them to ask me why it was necessary to say "other animals."

"Isn't a bird an animal?" asked Jane.

I told them that a common mistake was for people to talk about "birds and animals" as if birds were *not* animals at all—hence the necessity to put in the word "other" in order to be correct.

Paddy said that there were cases when he had found it difficult to distinguish some *plants* from animals. For instance, a sea anemone looks like a flower of some kind, but is truly an animal all the same.

I explained that the real clue lay in the method by which a living thing feeds or obtains its food. You see, all green plants manufacture most of their own food from gases in the air plus water and sunlight. No such plant can take in any *solid* food—only gases and liquids. Animals, on the other hand, can take in solids and cannot make their own foods as plants do. I warned my two friends against being confused by the fact that some microscopic water plants move about. This is no proof that they are animals.

If by observing a living thing carefully one could see that it took in solid food, this would be

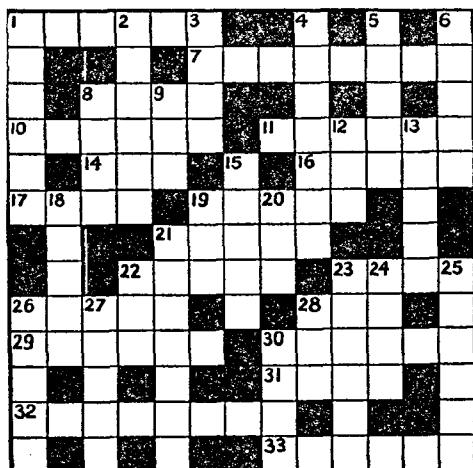


TAKE A LOOK  
AT NATURE  
with  
MAXWELL KNIGHT

evidence enough that it was indeed an animal. Sea anemones, though they *can* move about, usually remain in one place. If they are watched in a rock pool it will be seen that at intervals the tentacles open out and then may suddenly be closed up again. This can be caused by outside disturbance or shock, but it is usually a sign that some minute scrap of food has come in contact with the waving tentacles and has been taken down into the creature's stomach.

It is possible to prove this by shredding a cooked shrimp and carefully dropping the little pieces just over an open anemone. As soon as a fragment touches the tentacles they will close up. Solid food has been taken, and this shows that sea anemones are animals, however much they may look like plants.

## Crossword puzzle



ACROSS: 1 and 7 His reign saw the birth of the U.S.A. (three words, 6, 3, 5). 8 Lowest female voice. 10 Wrench. 11 Sparling, thrifty. 14 Devoured. 16 River flowing through Stoke, Nottingham, and Gainsborough. 17 Gown. 19 Colour. 21 Evergreen tree. 22 He wrote the Greek epics *Iliad* and *Odyssey*. 23 Plant not wanted by gardeners. 26 Apartment in a ship. 28 Term for an enthusiastic follower of Cliff Richard or Stanley Matthews!

29 United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation. 30 Food cupboard. 31 Limbs. 32 Sweet-scented. 33 Recluse. DOWN: 1 Supplier of hot water. 2 Tell. 3 Buckinghamshire town with a public school. 4 Beginner. 5 Burn. 6 A grown-up. 8 He'll be found in Saudi Arabia. 9 Neckwear. 12 Vase. 13 Leg joint. 15 Command. 18 Sea. 19 Precious stone. 20 Listen with it! 21 Musical performance. 22 Belonging to him. 23 Less cold. 24 Stops. 25 Straight to the point. 26 Where shirtsleeves end. 27 Commenced. 28 Distant. 30 Thin piece of wood.

Answer on page 11.



Mr. Therm is a magician. He has a magic lump which is made of coal, ordinary coal. But when he rubs it, his magic powers release its hidden wonders . . .

Maybe it isn't real magic, but it certainly seems like it! When Mr. Therm treats coal scientifically, he sets free the wealth that has been locked up in it for millions of years. This treatment is called carbonisation. This way, hundreds of different things we use every day can be made. When we burn coal on an open fire, we lose these valuable chemicals up the chimney as smoke and soot. Mr. Therm's magic saves them for us all.

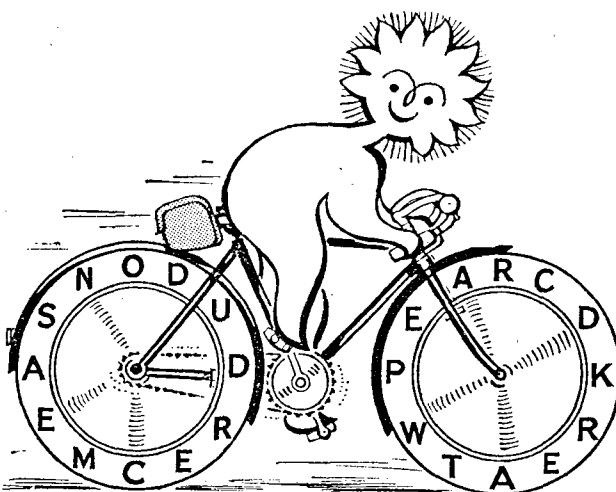
THERE'S a lot to look at in a chemist's shop. There are everyday things like soap and toothpaste and more special things such as perfume. There are vitamin pills in one drawer and aspirin in another, and pretty coloured liquids in bottles. It's a wonder that the shop assistant knows where to find every packet. But Mr. Therm would find practically everything in the shop already quite familiar, because he has helped to make most of them.

Coal is carbonised so that we can get gas and coke. When the gas is purified, some very important substances are left behind—coal-tar and benzole. Once Mr. Therm gets to work on these with his magic wand, he transforms them into other chemicals, of many sorts, which are used to make the articles we buy in the chemist's. Yet though two products may come from the same source, they are not always alike. For instance, would you think that vitamin pills and antiseptics both come from coal-tar? It just shows you how clever Mr. Therm is, and all those scientists. No wonder there is such a demand for his services, and no wonder nothing is wasted at the gasworks.



Issued by the Gas Council

## \* MR. THERM'S BICYCLE \*



The four words hidden in the tyres of Mr. Therm's bicycle all appear in the story above. Write down each alternate letter, and if you start in the right places you will find two words in each tyre. The letters are in the right order. Make a neat list of your answers on a postcard with full name, address and age, ask a parent or guardian to sign it as your own work, then post it to: Mr. Therm's Bicycle No. 12, Children's Newspaper, 26/27 Farringdon St., London, E.C.4 (Comp.). Mr. Therm will award £2 2s. Book Tokens for the three nearest correct entries received by Friday, March 1st. His decision is final!

Mr. Therm's Bicycle No. 7 winners were: Linda Barras, Birtley; David Eldon, Great Staughton; Sara Edmonds, Croydon. The words were: BOTTLE, DISHES, REWARD, CAMERA.

## THERE'S NO WASTE WITH GAS



# This Wide World



## FROZEN FIREMEN: SNOWED-UP SPACEMEN

An old-time Canadian fire engine carved from solid ice by Quebec firemen.

Big attraction in a Moscow suburb (left) this winter has been the sputnik snowman. His base is solid snow with an archway. Children go up the ladder, through the arch and down the chute on the far side.



## SEVEN-DAY VOYAGE TO THE MOON

Will astronauts get bored on a seven-day flight to the Moon?

Future Moon-pilots have been finding an answer to the problem. At a research centre in Virginia, U.S.A., they spent seven days inside the replica of a spacecraft. They found it best not to "go to bed" at the usual time for eight hours' sleep, but to take four-hour naps.

There was a small area where they could exercise.

## Making a noise in peace

Some 13,000 acres at Two People Bay, Western Australia, are to be set aside as a sanctuary for the Noisy Scrub Bird, which was in danger of becoming extinct. The World Wildlife Fund has already taken steps to see that the bird is saved.

A new town was to have been built here but, at the request of the Duke of Edinburgh, Australian authorities have decided to use another site and leave Two People Bay nice and quiet for the Noisy Scrub Bird.

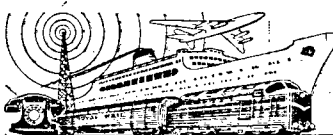
## RUSSIA'S GREEN PATROLS

Over 200,000 schoolchildren now belong to Russia's Nature Protection Society. They form Green Patrols and help to protect trees and shrubbery in towns and villages.

During the past two years they

have planted trees on an area of nearly 250,000 acres. They have shifted 16 million young fish from reservoirs that were going dry. They have also saved the soil on the slopes of ravines from being washed away by rain by planting trees on them.

## Briefly . . .



So many wild animals have been killed at night on German roads that reflectors are to be placed to deflect headlight beams into the woods to scare the animals away.

### Exchange visits

Sponsored by radio authorities, Japanese and Australian children, winners in an art competition, will be able to visit each other's countries soon.

A free cruise next August in the schoolship *Devonian* to Stockholm, Leningrad, Helsinki, and Copenhagen, has been won by 20 pupils of St. Mary's Convent, Berwick-on-Tweed.

### Brainy young Israelis

Entries in a junior science competition run recently in Israel, included a model of an electronic motor, and another demonstrating relativity.

After ten years of experiment with old typewriter parts, a London woman, Mrs. Lily Pavey, has produced a machine that types music.

### Hippo helping

During a banquet at Entebbe, Uganda, the American Ambassador was given hippo meat. He said it was fine—but one helping was enough.

## Lords of the Forest

The last of New Zealand's forests of majestic Kauri trees is being preserved at Waipoua in North Island. It's mightiest tree, known to the Maoris as *Tane Mahuta* (God of the Forest), is about 1,200 years old.

New Zealand once had vast forests of kauri trees. Ship-builders, in the days of sail, called it the "prince" of timbers, and the tall straight trees were ideal for topmasts. The early settlers built their houses of the wood, and the world's biggest wooden building, a Government office block at Wellington, was built of kauri in 1876. It was also extensively used for street paving blocks and railway sleepers.

## South Pole Carrots

Two keen gardeners at the American South Pole Station are growing flowers and vegetables only 800 yards from the Pole itself. Their garden is in a box 20 feet below the surface of the frozen snow, and light is supplied by lamps that are kept constantly burning.

## NOUVELLES DE FRANCE

Bûcherons clandestins, les castors ont débité de deux cent cinquante à trois cents arbres sur les berges du Rhône, dans la banlieue lyonnaise. Ils s'attaquent à toutes sortes d'arbres. Ceux de trente centimètres de diamètre ne sont pas épargnés. Ils sont débités en troncs avant d'être trainés jusqu'au fleuve. Ce travail est effectué avec une certaine discrétion puisque les riverains, inquiets de ce déboisement intempestif, ne réussissent que rarement à surprendre les animaux en pleine activité.

Les riverains ont actuellement, comme unique défense, la ressource de protéger leurs arbres par des grillages.

A 10s. 6d. book token will be awarded for what the Editor considers to be the best translation of the above received by Wednesday, 27th February. The BOOK TOKEN for 2nd February issue has been sent to Alison Patch, Flat 1, Marris House, Clarendon Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

## WHO IS TED?



"He's a terror" . . . "he's a show-off" . . . "he's fun" . . . "he's a trouble-maker" . . . Everybody has something to say about Ted, but it's Tansy who has the last word in a wow of a story called

## "THE TAMING OF TED"

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# Some Specially Good Books This Month

**FICTION** first. **THE MYSTERY OF SECRET BEACH** (Angus and Robertson, 15s.) has the great merit of being written by a specialist. It's a story of the coast of New South Wales and concerns the smuggling of forged currency notes into Australia and what a young naval lieutenant has to do about it.

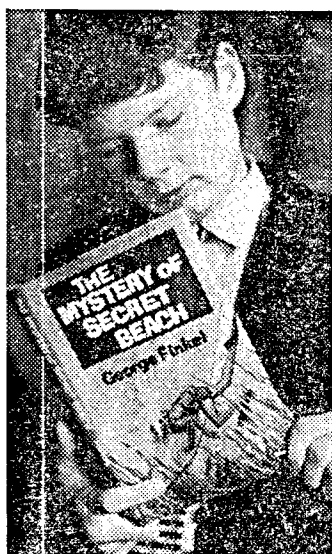
George Finkel, the author, is an old Navy man who lives in Australia. The details of off-

**I CAPTURE THE CASTLE** (4s. 6d.). All Peacock Books.

The first is an ingenious thriller about a boy who sees a murder committed while he is sitting in a County Court. The second is about the famous

## FEBRUARY

## BOOKSHELF



shore cabin-cruiser work, of tides and sandbanks, are refreshingly authentic, and are salted with just the right amount of villainy. I had to sit up till I'd finished it.

For young ballet fans I recommend **JENNIFER DANCES** by Eunice Young Smith (Ward, 15s.). One of the famous JENNIFER series, the story is laid in Chicago of 1909. It all works up to a good climax, with Jennifer doing a special little newsboy ballet all on her own.

Another good girls' story is **NOREEN AND THE BARCLAY AFFAIR** by Helen Dawson (Dent, 12s. 6d.) and it's set in New Zealand. Noreen's aunt belongs to a detective agency and they have to solve a most baffling case.

For everyone who likes tropical adventures I recommend the latest in R. B. Maddock's **CORRIGAN** series, **CORRIGAN AND THE LITTLE PEOPLE** (Nelson, 7s. 6d.). This time that hefty character of the Malayan rubber plantations joins the hunt for a mysterious, long-lost white man among the blowpipe-shooting jungle natives. A real he-man yarn.

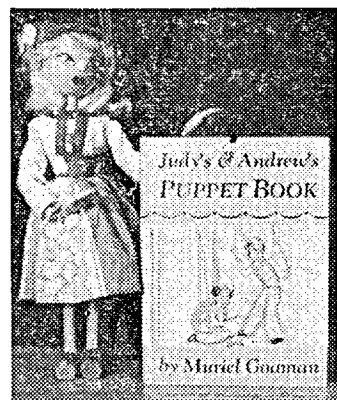
**THEN** there are three paperbacks I've enjoyed. **WITH MY LITTLE EYE** by Roy Fuller; **THE WITCH OF BLACKBIRD POND** by Elizabeth George Speare (both 3s. 6d.); and Dodie Smith's

witch trials in Connecticut in 1687, and the heroine is nearly burned alive; the third paperback is the diary of a girl whose family rent a ruined castle in Suffolk. This is a girls' story, and an excellent one, too.

**AMONG** recent non-fiction there is the latest in that useful series **TARGET BOOKS FOR CAREERS**, Peter Medina's **CAREERS WITH ANIMALS** (Hale, 8s. 6d.). This is a book which contains a lot of information about the various opportunities in this field. There are chapters on the work of the RSPCA, on Vets and Zoos, with plenty about pay and conditions.

There's a new secret world to explore in Millicent E. Selsam's **MICROBES AT WORK** (Chatto, 8s. 6d.). Simple experiments at home with a magnifying glass will show you a lot of what these extraordinarily tough little creatures get up to. Many of their activities, incidentally, are useful ones—they make pickles, for instance!

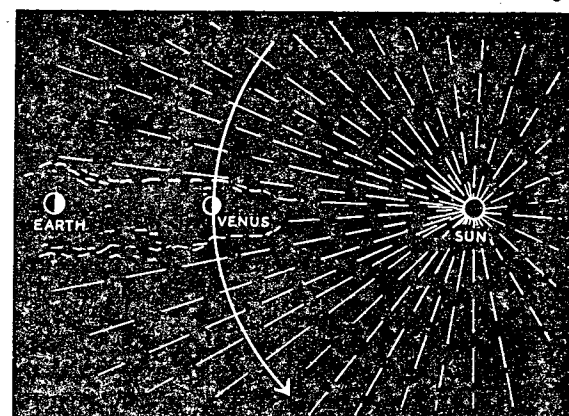
An unusual book about ships is the very handsomely illustrated **BOATS OVERLAND** by Roger Pilkington (Abelard-Schuman, 12s. 6d.), which gives the histories of sea-to-sea canals, where they have been built, and how.



Lastly, are you interested in glove puppets or marionettes? **JUDY'S AND ANDREW'S PUPPET BOOK** by Muriel Gouman (Faber, 9s. 6d.) tells you how to make the puppets and the marionettes and the theatres for them. It also gives the text of a Punch and Judy play to act.

A.I.

# STRANGE NEWS FROM VENUS



**LAST** October I wrote about the American space-probe *Mariner II*, which had been sent towards the mysterious planet Venus. At that time we had no idea whether or not this would be a success. We could not tell whether the probe would pass close to Venus, and we did not know whether the Americans would be able to keep in touch with it.

Since then, a great deal has happened. *Mariner* has proved to be a real triumph, even though the signals from it have not yet been fully studied. Originally the rocket went "off course," but its path was corrected so that on 14th December, 1962, the distance between *Mariner* and Venus was only 21,570 miles.

"Only" 21,570 miles! This may still seem a long way. But from the space-researcher's point of view it represents a great achievement, and from all reports



**LOOKING AT  
THE SKY  
with  
Patrick Moore**

conditions. We did think, however, that Venus had a strong magnetic field, and interesting researches had been carried out by a Dutch astronomer named Houtgast.

The Sun sends out streams of electrified particles, which are, of course, affected by magnetism. When Venus passes more or less between the Sun and the Earth, it should therefore have a measurable effect upon these particles, and interrupt the steady "flow" which we receive. This is shown in the diagram.

Venus is closer to the Sun than we are, and periodically it passes into the position known as "inferior conjunction." It last did this in November 1962. At such times we cannot see Venus at all. Its dark side is turned towards us and the phase is "new" (like the Moon's), but it is actually at its nearest to the Earth, and is practically in front of the Sun.

## Ashen Light

Houtgast examined the magnetic records for many years past, and decided that Venus really did produce an effect at each inferior conjunction. His work appeared to be quite sound, and astronomers accepted it. After all, Venus is in many ways very like the Earth. Why should it not have the same sort of magnetic field? Moreover, there was the Ashen Light, or faint luminosity of the "dark" side. This Light was thought to be due to strong electrical storms in Venus's atmosphere, which would again indicate a very powerful magnetic field.

*Mariner* carried instruments which would, it was hoped, confirm the existence of Venus's magnetic field. So far as can be made out at present, the instruments worked perfectly—but they gave a most unexpected result.

Venus appeared to have no detectable magnetic field at all.

Whether there is some error in interpretation, or whether Hout-

gast's results were wrong, we do not yet know. But, evidently, Venus has plenty of surprises in store for us.

Even more important, perhaps, is the question of the surface temperature. Results announced some years ago indicated that Venus might be very hot indeed, with a temperature of 600 or 700 degrees. I was always rather dubious about this, and about 1957 I suggested that Venus might be a world with very primitive life-forms on it—much the same as those which flourished on Earth some 500 million years ago.

The instruments carried in *Mariner* may well indicate that the surface temperature of Venus is not nearly so high as some authorities have believed, and if so there seems no reason why lowly life should not exist there. We can only "wait and see."

By this time, the rocket probe has been lost forever, but it has done its work.

# FIRST BOOKS

## THE FIRST BOOK OF MICROBES

by Lucia Z. Lewis. The process of decay, which is so essential to us, is described in this book. Illustrated. 10s. 6d.

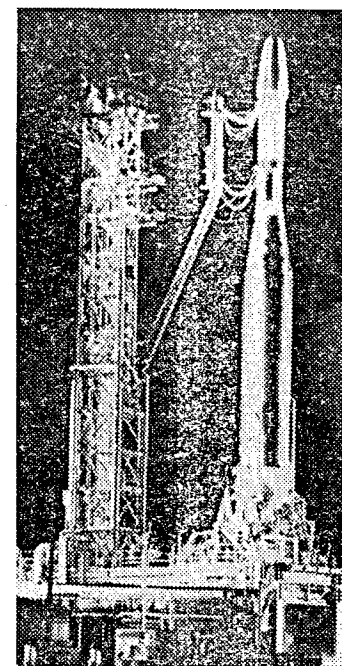
## THE FIRST BOOK OF EUROPEAN LAND BATTLES

by Trevor Nevitt Dupuy. In this book you can read of the military action in Europe from 1939-1943. 10s. 6d.

## KAYE • WARD

## FUN WITH ARCHAEOLOGY

by C. A. Burland. Archaeology provides the key to the past. This book explains how digging can lead to discovery. 12s. 6d.



The rocket which hurled *Mariner II* (under the shroud) into orbit

most of the experiments have been carried out successfully. There was no intention of actually landing the rocket on Venus. That will come later, with improved vehicles. *Mariner* was only an advanced guard.

*Mariner* had a detailed programme. For instance, it was planned to send back information about conditions in the region of Venus. It managed to do this, and even when it was at its closest to the planet the signals from it were still perfectly clear. For the moment, however, let us concentrate upon Venus itself.

We can never see the planet's surface, owing to the dense and permanent layer of "cloud" which hides it, and we have been most uncertain about the surface



## How We Run Our Country

# PROBATION OFFICERS

**SOMETIMES**, when a person is found guilty of an offence, he is not punished but instead is placed on probation. This means that he is given another chance. ("Probation" means "proof"; in other words, he is given a chance to prove he is really a good citizen.)

In such a case the offender remains at work or at school, but is supervised by a Probation Officer, whose duty is to advise, assist, and generally befriend him. The period of probation will be decided by the court and will vary with the seriousness of the case. It may be anything from one to three years.

A probation order, which cannot be made without the consent of the offender, usually requires him to keep in regular touch with the Probation Officer, to be of good behaviour and to lead an industrious life. It usually also requires him to find a job and keep it; to report to the Probation Office as and when instructed; to receive visits from the Probation Officer at home, and to report immediately any change of address or job.

There may also be extra conditions—that a young person must spend a period in a probation hostel; must stay away from coffee bars or public houses; must be indoors at a certain time every night.

### Punishment

An offender can be brought back to court if he breaks the requirements of his order, and then is liable to be punished for his original offence.

Every magistrates' court and superior criminal court must have available the services of Probation Officers of both sexes. There are



**Our pictures show—Top: Caught in the act! Middle: Before the Bench. Bottom: Meeting a new friend—the probation officer.**

*From documentary film*



1,749 Probation Officers in England and Wales, and 181 in Scotland. Less than one third of them are women. Seventeen out of every twenty cases they deal with are men or boys.

In 1962, every Probation Officer was responsible for about 60 cases. These were people on probation or under supervision orders, or people released from approved schools, borstals, or prison and who needed care and guidance.

Probation Officers lead very busy lives, and, because they are involved in helping rather than punishing people, they do a very worthwhile job of work indeed.



**NEXT WEEK:  
SOLICITORS**

The middle of the desert hardly seems the place to go digging—but Lieutenant Bill King, who is serving with the RAF in Bahrain, in the Persian Gulf, spends most of his spare time doing this.

Surprising as it may seem, his digging is actually a form of hunting. Armed with picks and shovels, he and some of his friends venture into the desert in the comparative cool of the evening to dig for lizards in the sand. These vicious reptiles come in all sizes up to six feet long, and are difficult to catch, as you can gather from these pictures.

Bill King sends the lizards to the London Zoo and other similar institutions.

# DIG



Bill King (left) works out t

# THAT LIZARD



It's all hands to work for the final stages of the hunt.



They've caught him



# CN PANORAMA

## NEWS IN PICTURES

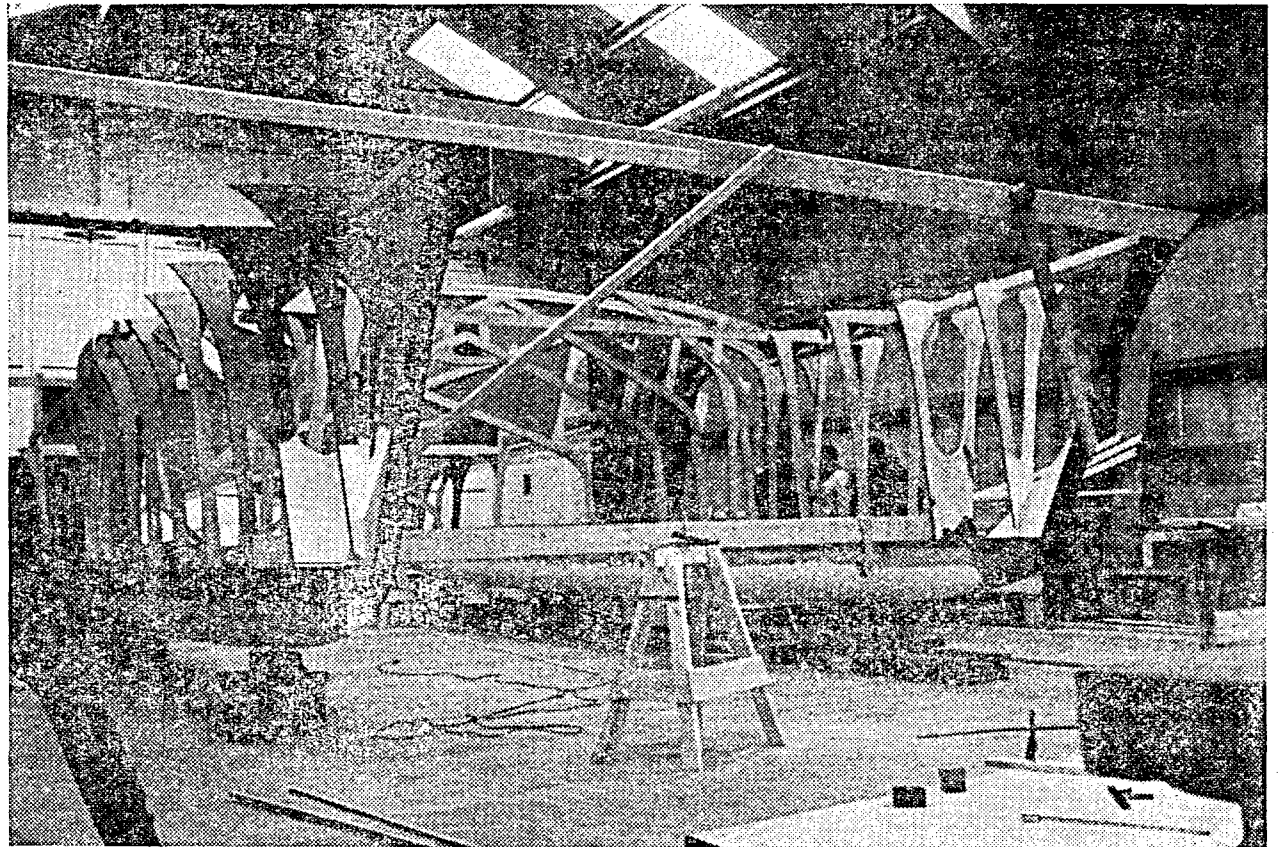


ie best way to dig up a lizard.



at last—luckily without being bitten!

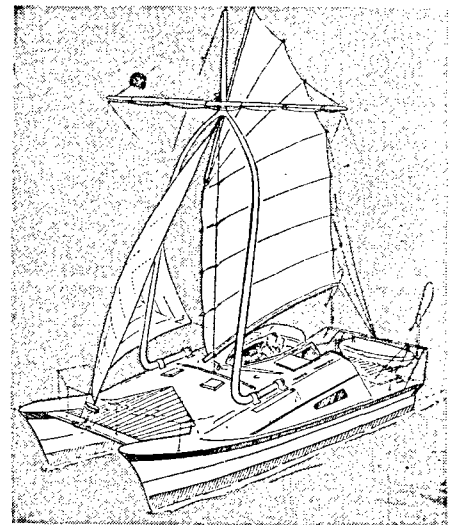
## A "Cat" for the Arctic



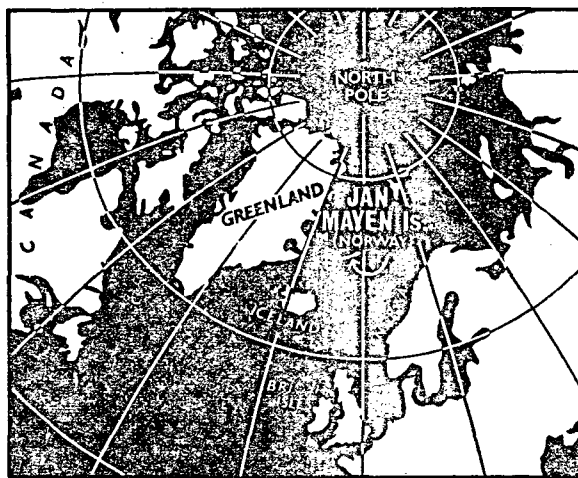
In a quiet shipyard on Canvey Island, in Essex, a boat is being built (above) for a remarkable expedition which is planned for this summer.

The expedition is being led by Dr. David Lewis, who in 1960 sailed the Atlantic alone in his five-ton yacht to win third place in the first single-handed trans-Atlantic race. This time he intends to sail from the Thames to Jan Mayen Island, north of the Arctic Circle, and from there, weather and time permitting, to the almost unknown East coast of Greenland.

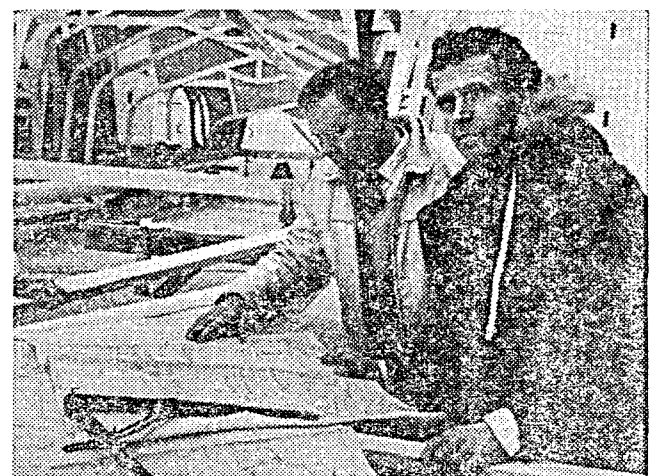
The boat being built for him is a catamaran, which is basically a raft with two floats. As you can see from our pictures, this particular catamaran is a much more elaborate affair. Its construction makes it very strong, fast, and stable. It was designed for Dr. Lewis by Colin Mudie, a naval architect, who has kindly drawn a special illustration for C N, so that you can see how the completed boat will look. Mr. Mudie is himself an experienced and adventurous yachtsman.



Impression of the finished boat.



A map showing the position of Jan Mayen Island.



Dr. David Lewis (right) discusses the boat's plans.





**HERE** is another article about our adopted ship, the big Union Castleliner, Braemar Castle. This month Chief Officer Robert J. Miller writes about the cargo the ship carries. He says, too, that he will be delighted to hear from readers. (You can write to him c/o Union Castle Steamship Co., Public Relations Department, 2 St Mary Axe, London, E.C.3).

I wonder how many of you have been lucky enough to be taken around a busy port and have watched the tall cranes lifting bales, crates, and cartons, swinging them high over the decks of the ships moored alongside?

Countries thrive and survive on their trade with other nations, and the sea is the main highway for the transport of all the world's goods.

The Braemar Castle carries not only passengers to her many ports of call but also a great deal of valuable cargo and mail. She leaves London loaded with agricultural machinery and electrical and engineering equipment for delivery to East African countries to help to develop farming and young industries; also textiles, cars, paints, and all manner of luxury goods which these countries are not as yet producing

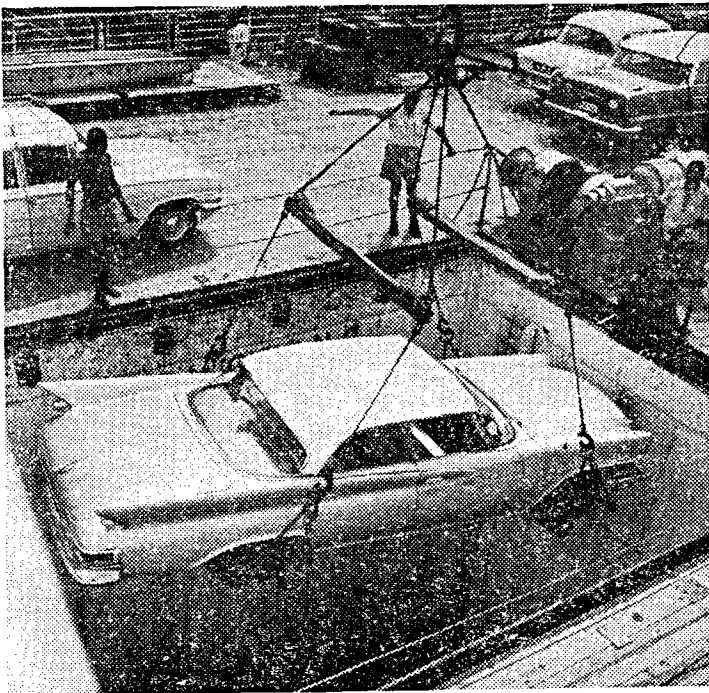
and this is achieved by stowing the heaviest commodities, such as copper, at the bottom of the holds.

Care must also be taken to ensure that articles in a hold do not contaminate or crush one another. Tea and tobacco, for instance, are bad travelling companions; and so are asbestos and copper, and they should not be stowed in the same compartment.

A final consideration is the distribution of the cargo in different holds to ensure the fastest possible rate of loading and discharge.

The Braemar Castle has over 375,000 cubic feet of space for the carriage of general cargo, and another 69,000 cubic feet of refrigerated space for foodstuffs such as frozen beef, fish, eggs, and fruit, of which there are large shipments from both South and East Africa.

These cargo-carrying spaces are



One more piece of "baggage" for the hold!

in sufficient quantities. On the return voyage she loads raw materials such as copper, zinc, asbestos, sisal (for making ropes), timber, tea, coffee, tobacco, and fruit.

One of the principal duties of a Chief Officer is to plan the loading, stowage and discharge of the cargo carried, and his first consideration when loading cargo must be the safety of the ship and those who sail aboard her.

When loaded, the weight of the cargo must be evenly distributed throughout the length of the ship to equalise the strain at all points. Stability is also very important

divided into five holds, each hold being sub-divided into lower 'tween deck and upper 'tween deck. With fuel oil for the engines (2,500 tons), and fresh water (1,450 tons) for washing and drinking, the ship can still carry 6,800 tons of cargo, and her weight, with all her contents, is almost 22,000 tons.

Normally, cargo is loaded and discharged by shore cranes, but if these are not available the ship uses her own equally efficient derricks and power-driven winches.

ROBERT J. MILLER  
Chief Officer

# Sunday's Desperate People

## MOON DROPS

A NEW dramatised documentary series, *Moonstrike*, begins in BBC-TV this Thursday.

It's a story about parachute exploits and hair-raising landings and take-offs in the heart of enemy-occupied territory during the war.

Why *Moonstrike*? Because these dangerous operations were usually carried out in moonlight.



by Ernest Thomson

## She likes mice!



JUNE THORBURN, star of films and TV, is to tell "Fireside Story" every week in A-R's *Small Time*, starting on Friday.

She created a sensation as Cinderella in BBC-TV, letting lizards and mice crawl over her. "Mice?" said June. "I love them!"



Rene Lister, Piper the Whippet, and David William

Larry Martin (Denis Quilley), a commercial photographer, has a younger brother Philip (Philip Guard) who is home on leave from Army service in Germany. Philip dashes off to Ireland, explaining he must see the widow of a friend who has been killed in a car crash. But is he telling the truth?

Larry's secretary, Ruth Sands, is played by Rene Lister. She and her husband, Kenneth Cope (Jed Stone of *Coronation Street*), own Piper the Whippet, which you see in the picture in the arms of David William. In this story Piper belongs to a character called Thomas Quayle, who is played by David William.



Denis Quilley

## Light Music

*Music by Candlelight, Lamplight, Gaslight*—it sounds like a power cut. But do not worry. It's a feature series which starts in BBC junior radio on Sunday.

A team of instrumentalists with harpsichord, piano, and violin, play music from different

periods of history. *Candlelight* brings tunes of Samuel Pepys' time in the reign of Charles II. A week later *Lamplight* takes us to Vienna in the time of Franz Schubert. With *Gaslight*, on 10th March, the period is of the crinolines and Queen Victoria.

## Adventures in Filmland

EVERYONE dreams about the glamour of "being a film star," but a mill girl named Betty Midgeley came home to England recently after living in the middle of them. She met Robert Mitchum and Jane Powell and Jayne Mansfield and lots more—all because she had the spirit of adventure and answered an advertisement asking for textile workers to go to

Canada. So off Betty went to work in a Canadian mill—and ended up as a film stars' housekeeper in California! She had a glorious time, but found the life wasn't as glamorous as she'd expected, and she felt she must have a little glimpse of home before she started off again on her travels.

Betty came back to England in a fog, and felt so happy!

PAMELA FRANKLIN starred in the picture called *The Lion*. Now she has made a Walt Disney comedy, *The Horse Without A Head*. In it Pamela's the leader of a gang of children, and she's able to whistle all the local dogs along to help her!



## Jonquil Antony's Column



PRINCESS ANNE is much in the news these days, with her coat-of-arms, and her new teenage hair style. She seems to favour a wide bandeau to keep it tidy.

I wonder if she feels envious when her mother goes off on tours to places like Fiji, Australia and New Zealand? I expect she does, but she knows that in a few years' time she'll be going on "royal" tours of her own.

IF you have to cook the breakfast sometimes, ask somebody to give you a new little book just out—it's in the Home Entertaining series by Herbert Jenkins (4s. 6d.). It's got 180 different breakfasts in it.



# LEAVE IT TO JENNINGS!

To conceal the fact that he had lost his arithmetic book, Jennings covered his library book with a brown paper wrapper, but the ruse failed when Mr. Wilkins borrowed the book during a lesson...

## 6. Appeal to Aunt Angela

MR. WILKINS had not time for Jennings' excuses. "The whole thing's crystal clear," he declared. "You disguise this rubbishy novel as a text-book so that you can smuggle it into my class, with no questions asked. And then, as soon as my back's turned, you propose to sit back and read a couple of chapters instead of doing any work."

Jennings was shocked by the suggestion.

"Oh no, sir!" he protested. "I wasn't going to read it in class! Honestly, sir!"

"If you weren't going to read it, what were you going to do—polish the floor with it?"

"It was just so I could be like everyone else and have an arith. book on my desk," Jennings explained. "It was to look at, not to use; a sort of ornament, as you might say, sir."

THE true explanation dawned on Mr. Wilkins. "Are you trying to tell me you've lost your arithmetic book?" he asked.

"Well, I haven't actually lost it, sir," Jennings said. "I think I lent it to somebody and they never gave it back."

It was not so much the loss of the book as the way in which the boy had tried to conceal it that aroused Mr. Wilkins' anger.

"You silly little boy!" he thundered, wielding the book like a table tennis bat. "Why can't you say straight out that you've lost it, instead of going through all this ridiculous pantomime of wrapping-up sea-stories in brown paper covers! Here am I, anxious to get on with the lesson, and you give me a book called *The Mystery of Elementary Arithmetic*—er—I mean *The Secret Galleon Without Answers*, or rather..." He ceased his vigorous forehand and backhand strokes and threw the volume down on the desk. "Pass me your book, Darbshire," he ordered. "We've wasted enough time already."

WHEN he had regained a calmer frame of mind, Mr. Wilkins set the class some examples to work out. At the end of the lesson he delivered an ultimatum to Jennings.

"Twice in one morning I've had trouble with you over your text-books," he said severely. "You'd better find that one you've lost, because if you come into my class next Monday without one, you'll be paying for a new arithmetic book as well as a new atlas."

"But, sir, I haven't..."

Mr. Wilkins silenced the excuse with a frown that implied spine-chilling consequences if his orders were disobeyed.

"You heard what I said," he grunted, and strode from the room.

A THOROUGH search and many inquiries failed to reveal the whereabouts of the missing book. He had lent it to someone, he felt certain of that. Jennings told Darbshire during lunch, and, that being so, it was most unfair that he was being made to suffer for what any right-minded person would agree was a generous action.

"And anyway, Old Wilkie's a fine one to talk," he went on, as he chased a slippery morsel of jelly round his plate with a bent-pronged fork. "He's always leaving his books in the staff room and having to use ours! Look at the way he borrowed yours to set us those examples."

"Yes, and I had to ask him for it back afterwards or he'd have gone waltzing off with it," Darbshire grumbled. "Old Wilkie's a jolly rotter, if you ask me. Three boos for Sir!"

BUT the whispered boos, though they relieved Jennings' feelings, did nothing to solve his problem, and by the end of lunch he had decided to appeal to his Aunt Angela for help. The day was Friday, and there would be no arithmetic lesson until the following Monday; if, then, he were to write to her without delay, stressing the urgency of his request, there would be just time for her to purchase a copy and send it to him by return of post. The letter would also serve as a timely reminder that he had not yet received the postal order she had mentioned when last she wrote.

With this in mind he hurried off to the common-room after lunch, escorted by a group of friends and well-wishers to whom he had confided his plan. He got out his writing pad and sat down while the well-wishers crowded round, breathing down his neck and offering helpful advice.

"YOU'LL have to be careful how you put it," Darbshire observed. "You'd better say you're terribly keen on arithmetic. Make out it's your favourite subject."

Jennings pushed back the knot of spectators and wrote:

Dear Aunt Angela,  
I hope you are well and having decent weather. As you know, I am very keen on arithmetic...

Venables, peering over the writer's shoulder, choked with

mirth and was given artificial respiration by Atkinson.

Jennings took no notice.

... and what I want more than anything is a green book called *Elementary Arithmetic*, by R. Kirby, B.Sc., costing eight-and-six...

He paused for thought.

"Then you could say, 'With this book as my constant companion, I could spend many happy hours,'" Darbshire suggested.

Temple gave him a look. "That's putting it a bit strong, isn't it—even for Jennings?"

"I don't see why," Darbshire argued. "My father says

by Anthony Buckeridge

Mathematics is a language, so people can..."

"A language? You mean they talk in it?"

"Well, not people like us, perhaps," Darbshire said. "But learned professors and old geezers like that can understand each other in maths, even if they don't all speak English."

THE idea of mathematics as a language was something that Temple found hard to resist. He gave Atkinson a friendly punch in the ribs and said: "I say, let's be two

Clutching his jar, Jennings scampered away, followed by Darbshire.



learned professors talking in maths."

"Righto." Atkinson took up his cue and spoke in tones of bogus importance. "Good morning, Professor Temple!  $a^2 + 2ab + b^2$ , don't you think?"

"Oh, definitely," Temple agreed pompously. "In fact, seven eights are fifty-six plus the square root of minus one and take away the number you first thought of."

"Of course! And the base of an isosceles triangle to you, too!"

"Oh, shut up! I'm trying to think," Jennings complained.

He frowned at the sheet of

notepaper for a moment and went on:

I would like this book at once as I am keen to get on quickly, so would you please send it tomorrow, i.e. viz. Sat., without fail. You could put it in a parcel with the postal order which you might possibly have been meaning to send me as you often do about now.

"Hint, hint," said Venables, now fully recovered from his asphyxia.

"Well, you can only hint," Jennings replied.

Hastily he scribbled:

Must stop now as have no blotch so can't turn over.

With love,  
John.

That should do the trick, he thought as he dropped the letter in the posting-box before afternoon school. He had done all that was humanly possible to comply with Mr. Wilkins' orders.

It was up to Aunt Angela now!

THE sun was still shrouded in a thin wraith of mist as Mr. Carter made his way towards the pond at the far end of the school grounds. It was not often that he found time to take a stroll before breakfast, but the fresh morning air, with its promise of a fine day to come, had lured

My lips are sealed." The answer, coming through unsealed lips, was audible over a couple of acres.

MR. CARTER glanced at his watch. It was time that Jennings and Darbshire (and there was no mistaking the owners of those penetrating voices) were getting ready for breakfast.

Having no wish to compete in what sounded like a town-criers' contest, Mr. Carter blew his whistle to attract the conspirators' attention. The exchange of secrets ceased in mid-shout and two small figures emerged from the undergrowth and came running towards him.

"Morning, sir," they greeted him.

"I heard your whistle, sir," Jennings added, as though proud of the achievement. "As soon as you blew it, I said to myself, 'There's Mr. Carter's whistle,' I said. Honestly, I did. You see, we're on an expedition, sir. Making obbos for our proj."

"Making what for your what?" Mr. Carter inquired, baffled.

"Observations for our project, sir. Mr. Wilkins said we've got to find out things about local geog.—like, say, for instance, how much rain we had last month, and what sorts of soil you find around these parts."

MR. CARTER glanced at their muddy knees. "You seem to have collected some samples already," he observed.

"It'll soon brush off, sir," said Darbshire, who was clasping a large bunch of foliage to his chest. "We've been finding specimens of plants and wild life and things. Actually, you know, the proper thing to call them is flora and fauna," he added condescendingly.

Mr. Carter nodded solemnly. "Yes, I have come across the expression before."

"Oh! Well, anyway, I've collected this bunch of very rare weeds. I bet you wouldn't find these growing in many places, would you, sir?"

"H'm. What are they?" the master inquired.

"I don't know what they're called, sir," the collector admitted, frowning at his specimens. "That's what makes me think they're rare. I'd know their names otherwise, wouldn't I?"

COMPARED with Darbshire's flora, his friend's fauna was a far more sensational contribution to the project.

"Look, sir! Look what I found!" Jennings cried triumphantly, thrusting a jam jar under Mr. Carter's nose for his inspection.

Inside the jar was a dead and somewhat withered grass snake.

Mr. Carter recoiled slightly and said: "My word, that's a fearsome looking object."

"Yes, sir, it's a beauty," the boy agreed. "We're going to keep it a secret until I've shown Mr. Wilkins. He said we'd got to take all our discoveries to him right away

Continued on page 10



## WORLD OF STAMPS

## Royal Stamps for a Royal Visit



**NEW** portraits of the Queen and Prince Philip form the designs of two stamps issued in Australia to celebrate the royal visit.

The 5d. value, green in colour, has a portrait of the Queen alone. Pictured here is the 2s. 3d. stamp, which is a reddish purple, showing the Queen and Prince Philip. A commemorative air-letter sheet, or aerogramme, has also been issued. Printed in red and green, this has the same double portrait as the 2s. 3d. stamp.

As well as making these special issues, the Australian Post Office is using a commemorative slogan postmark during the royal visit.

Next month the city of Canberra, the capital of Australia, will be celebrating its 50th anniversary. After the six States of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia had joined to form the Commonwealth of Australia in 1900, they decided to build a federal capital.

Australians were determined to make their capital one of the most beautiful cities in the world. On 12th March, 1913, an official ceremony marked the foundation of Canberra on land acquired from the State of New South Wales.

An American architect, Walter Burley Griffin, was commissioned to plan the lay-out of the city. Roads, a railway, parks, and stately buildings were soon being constructed.

## Centre of Government

Parliament House, the centre of the Australian government, was opened in 1927 by the Duke of York, who later became George VI. To mark the opening a special 1½d. stamp, showing a view of the building, was issued in 1927. This stamp, Australia's first commemorative issue, is quite common and can still be obtained for a penny or two.

Now, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the foundation of Canberra, a new 5d. commemorative stamp is to be issued. Its design, pictured here, shows the city coat-of-arms and a portrait of the architect.



**OTHER** attractive stamps are to be issued soon in the Australian territories of Norfolk Island and Papua and New Guinea. They will all be additions to the current definitive series.

The Norfolk Island stamp, shown here, displays a fish which is abundant around the Island.



Its Latin name appears on the stamp but Norfolk Islanders call it "the trumpeter fish."

**THE** last illustration shows the new 5d. stamp for Papua and New Guinea with a bird of paradise in its full natural colours. Another new stamp, 6d. in value, will depict a small Papuan tree animal, the golden opossum.

C. W. HILL

## LEAVE IT TO JENNINGS!

continued from page 9

so he can keep tabs on how the project's going, sir. It's strictly educational, you see."

"No doubt," said Mr. Carter, glancing again at his watch. "But first of all you'd better go and wash your hands and knees. You're late for breakfast already and you're not going into the dining hall plastered from head to foot in the local subsoil—however educational it may be."

"**YES**, sir. Mustn't be late for breakfast. I'm jolly hungry, aren't you, sir?" Clutching his jam jar, Jennings turned and scampered away towards the school buildings, followed by Darbishire trailing tendrils of very rare weeds behind him.

Mr. Carter watched them go. Yes, he *had* been looking forward to his breakfast, he reflected. Yet somehow the encounter at such close quarters with the dead grass snake had taken the edge off his appetite.

He decided to forgo his eggs and bacon and fortify himself instead with the clean sweet air of the summer morning . . .

He continued his walk.

To be continued

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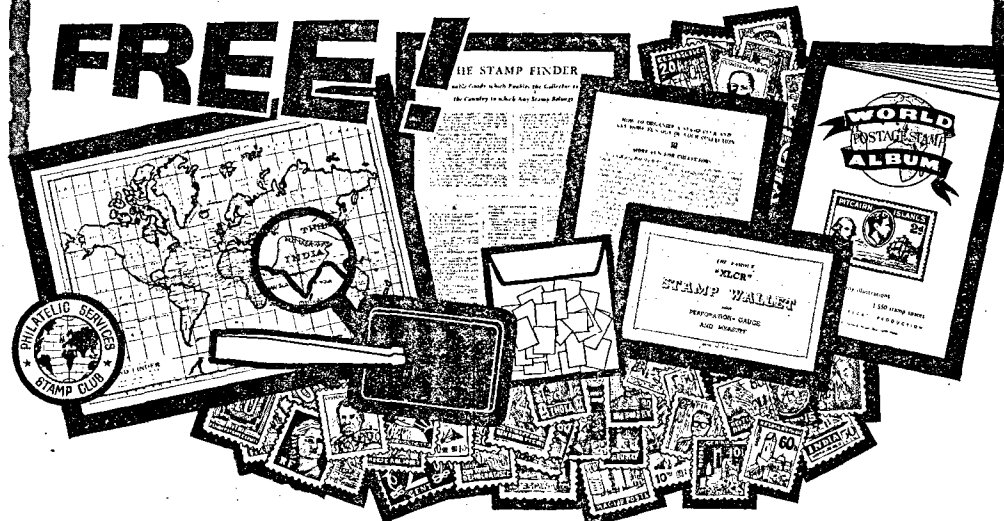
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# PICK A PUZZLE

by  
Guy Williams

## ZOO QUEST

MY FIRST'S in gorilla, it's left  
out of ape,  
My second's in vine, you'll not  
find it in grape;  
My third is in hunter, it's left out  
of scout,  
My fourth is in nearly, my fourth's  
in about;

My fifth's in before, and also in  
after,  
My sixth is in chaff, it's left out of  
laughter;  
My seventh's in hen, it's in her  
egg, too,  
My whole is a creature we see at  
the Zoo.

Now, what do  
you think  
this is?

## The Clue is in The Mousetrap

85033 12266324  
24245 7256824  
32673 6245815

Complete the addition sums  
above. When you have done so,  
change the answers into letters  
according to the following code:

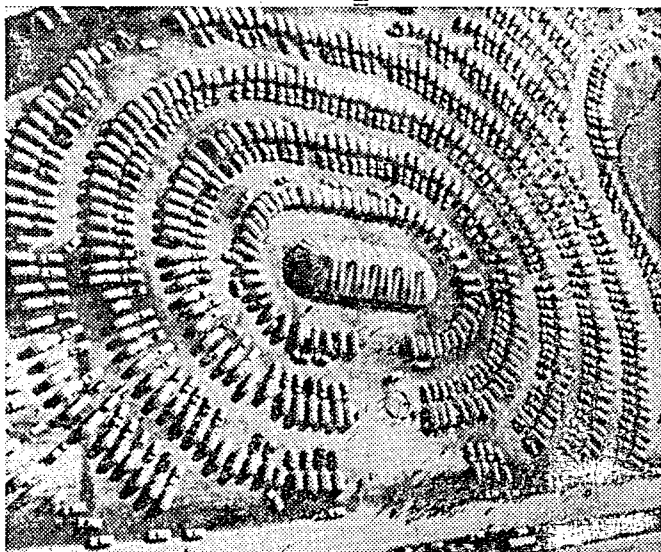
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9  
A C E G H I R S T

If you have done the sums  
correctly, the figures will pro-  
vide the name of a famous  
writer of detective stories.

## STAR BIRD

The stars between the rows of  
letters represent the letters in the  
name of a well-known game  
bird found mainly in coverts of  
from 5 to 25. If you guess  
the name correctly you will find  
that, when read downwards, nine  
three-letter words have been  
formed.

A C A A A H A A W  
\* \* \* \* \*  
T T T E K T O E T



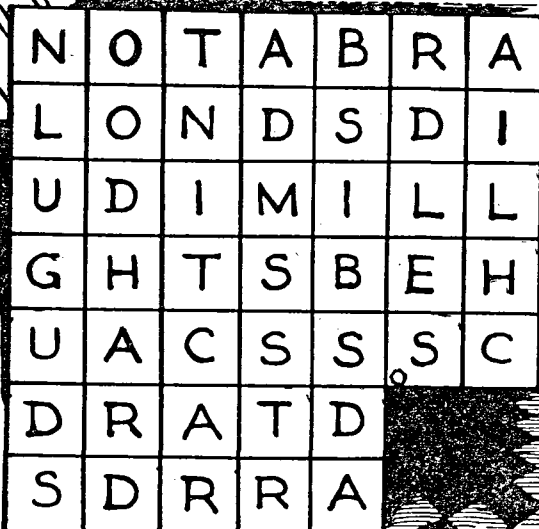
## A LONG REIGN

Can you rearrange the letters  
in the words below to form the  
name of a monarch who ruled  
for more than 60 years?

QUIVER AT NO ICE

Red Indian's headdress,  
part of a mosaic floor,  
chrysalis and an army  
of ants, or . . . ?

## Making a game of it!



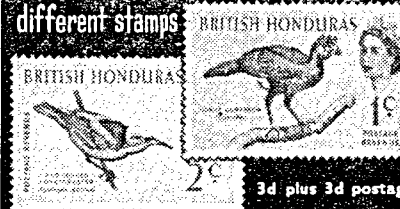
BY starting in one of the corners and passing through each  
square, the letters will spell the names of seven games.

## ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Crossword. (P. 3.) ACROSS: 1 and  
7 George the Third. 8 Alto.  
10 Sprain. 11 Frugal. 14 Ate.  
16 Trent. 17 Robe. 19 Green.  
21 Cedar. 22 Homer. 23 Weed.  
26 Cabin. 28 Fan. 29 UNESCO.  
30 Larder. 31 Arms. 32 Fragrant.  
33 Hermit. Down: 1 Geyser.  
2 Relate. 3 Eton. 4 Starter.  
5 Singe. 6 Adult. 8 Arab. 9 Tie.  
12 Urn. 13 Ankle. 15 Order.  
18 Ocean. 19 Gem. 20 Ear.

21 Concert. 22 His. 23 Warmer.  
24 Ends. 25 Direct. 26 Cuffs.  
27 Began. 28 Far. 30 Lath.  
Zoo Quest: Giraffe. The Clue is  
in The Mousetrap: Agatha  
Christie. Star bird: Partridge.  
Making a game of it: Chess;  
darts; cards; draughts; billiards;  
badminton; ludo. A long reign:  
Queen Victoria. Now, what do  
you think this is? Marquee  
surrounded by cars and caravans.

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Grenada, Cayman Is., Selan-  
gor, etc.

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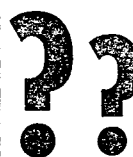
E. F. CROFT (C.N.20),  
Pigdown Farm, Hever, nr. Edenbridge,  
Kent

## OLD BADGER IS BACK!



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MILL LANE, WORTHING, SUSSEX



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## TOP OF THE HITS

THAT pair, The Avons,  
were top of the hit parade  
recently—not as singers—  
although this is their usual line  
—but as composers. Their  
instrumental number, *Dance  
On*, was taken to the Number  
One Place by The Shadows.

Now The Avons are hoping to  
get up there again, this time with  
their own performance. They  
have just made a record—*Hey  
Paula* (Decca F11588. Single), one  
of a number of versions recorded  
in this country of a big American  
hit.

At one time The Avons—Elaine  
and Val Murtagh and Ray Adams  
—were a trio. Now they are  
down to two as far as per-  
forming is concerned. But they  
intend to stay as a threesome for  
composing.

## on RECORD



Ray Adams and Elaine Murtagh

## OTHER NEW DISCS

A lot of talent—from Lionel Bart  
to Joe Brown—has grown up in  
London's East End. A newcomer to  
records from that district is Ben  
Richmond, who makes a good job  
of *Blue Bird* (Piccadilly 7N35093.  
Single).

Sammy Davis Junior will be pay-  
ing another of his visits here  
shortly. A taste of his talent can  
be heard in *As Long As She Needs  
Me* (Reprise R2013. Single).

Birgit Nilsson is famous today for  
her Wagnerian operatic roles, but she  
has devoted her latest long-player to  
arias by Verdi (Decca LXT6033.  
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**TAKE** a look in the window of your local angling shop and you will see all sorts of fishing reels. But for the beginner the *centre-pin* reel takes some beating. It is a good general-purpose reel, and reasonably cheap, too.

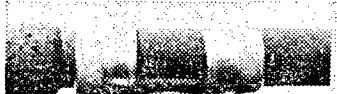
A good centre-pin reel can be bought for £1. It can be of metal, preferably with an enamel or a non-corrosive finish. A wooden one is a good buy, too, even if it does look a bit old-fashioned—but be on your guard against cheap

Specially written for CN  
by Harvey Torbett

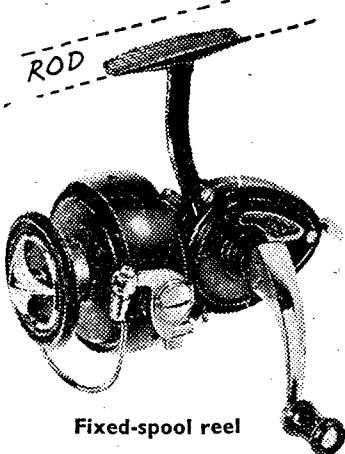
plastic centre-pin reels! They have a nasty habit of breaking in half if you drop them.

It is a good idea, by the way, to buy a reel with a line-guard attached. This will prevent line running into the drum and jamming the works.

The most attractive reel to the beginner, however, is probably the *fixed-spool*, but a decent one will cost you more than twice as much



Centre-pin reel



Fixed-spool reel

as a "centre-pin." And in the hands of a beginner it can be a complicated tool.

The centre-pin reel takes in line on a revolving spool, but with the fixed-spool reel the line is wound on to a static spool by means of a piece of curved steel-wire called the pick-up arm. This, attached to a revolving drum behind the spool, guides line on to the reel in even amounts, preventing knots.

The fixed-spool reel needs an experienced touch, so for the time being I should stick to a centre-run job.

Next week: Hooks and lines.

"That's the way, lad!"



These young cricketers may be Test stars in the making. They are being given instruction by Jack Robertson, himself a former England player, at the Middlesex County Cricket School in Finchley, North London.

## NEW ZEALAND'S TEST

WITH the struggle for the Ashes over, the England cricketers have been able to relax a little. But on Saturday they face Test cricket again, at Auckland, in the first of two matches against New Zealand.

The New Zealanders have never won a Test against England. And the record books show that at Auckland in 1955, the home side was dismissed for the lowest Test total ever—26 runs!

New Zealand's captain is John Reid, who made his first Test appearance in 1949. A first-class batsman, he set up a world record a few weeks ago by hitting 15 sixes in a match. In that innings he also made 35 fours in a total of 296.

## Two rugby internationals

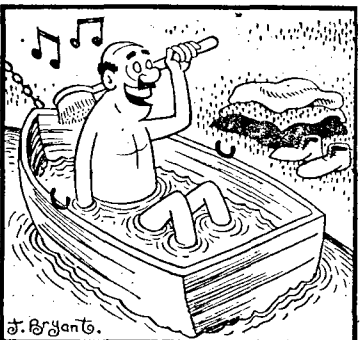
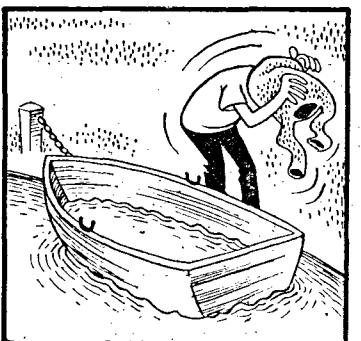
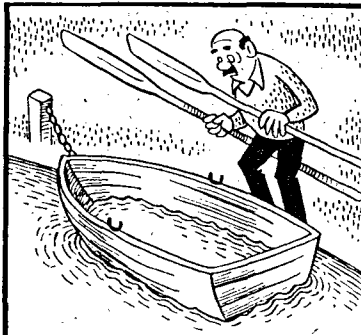
RUGBY UNION fans will be well catered for on Saturday, with two international matches. At Twickenham, England meet France, while Scotland and Ireland are at Murrayfield.

England have a good record against the Frenchmen, home international champions, having lost only two of the last eight games at Twickenham. Scotland, smarting under their Murrayfield defeat by Wales three weeks ago, will be particularly eager to lay the Ireland boggy; for the Irish have won six of their last eight games in Scotland.

One of the toughest of the Scots is David Rollo, a big, Fifeshire farmer who started his football career on the soccer field. Proof of his toughness was apparent when, a few days before the match with Wales, he dropped a curling stone (weighing between 36-40 lb) on his toe.

But a little thing like that didn't stop David playing.

## ALL-ROUND ALFIE



## Extras . . .

### Cricket

It is Yorkshire's centenary year, and the side's new captain is Brian Close, who made his debut with the County when only 18 and in the same season became the youngest player ever to appear in a Test match.

### Cycling

The English Schools' championships will be held at Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, in July.

This year's Tour of Britain race will take place from the 3rd to 15th June.

### Fencing

The national champions of eight countries are to take part in an epee tournament in London on 16th March.

### Netball

The All-England netball rally will be held at Broadstairs, Kent, on 30th March.

### Soccer

The final of the European Cup will be played at Wembley on 25th May. But if either of the teams concerned has a league match arranged for that date, the final will be played three days earlier—on 22nd May.

### Swimming

British swimmers are in for another big international challenge in the coming season, although there will be no European championships. Apart

from the Bologna Trophy competed for by England, Scotland, and Wales, there will be matches against France, West Germany, Sweden, East Germany, Hungary; and a six-nations competition.

### Table Tennis

The Australian side chosen for the world championships in Prague meets Ireland in Belfast this Wednesday evening.

### Tennis

After 69 years' existence the U.S. Western Lawn Tennis Association is to drop the Lawn from its title. It has no grass courts!



Mary Prestidge (14) of Sidcup, Kent, is the new junior gymnast champion of London and South-East Counties.

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The statement below must be signed by Parent or Guardian.

I am the Parent (Guardian) of the above applicant, and certify that I am willing to allow him/her to be enrolled as a Juvenile Member of the Association.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_